Claims

What is claimed is:

1. An indexing system comprising:

   a recognizer which recognizes words;

5   an indexing database; and

   a translator which accepts textual input, having originated from said recognizer, and which reconfigures said textual input for entry into said indexing database wherein, immediately prior to reconfiguration, said textual input appears as a feature-extracted transformation of at least one word recognized by said recognizer.

10   2. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising a feature extractor which transforms words recognized by said speech recognizer into predetermined textual features and which provides the textual features as the textual input into said translator.

3. The system according to Claim 2, wherein the textual features comprise morphs of words recognized by said speech recognizer.

4. The system according to Claim 2, wherein the textual features comprise stems of words recognized by said speech recognizer.

5. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said speech recognizer is adapted to transform recognized words into predetermined textual features and provide the textual features as the textual input into said translator.

6. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said speech recognizer is adapted to provide the textual input into said translator and said translator is adapted to transform the textual input into predetermined textual features prior to reconfiguration of the textual input for entry into said indexing database.

7. The system according to Claim 1, wherein:

said recognizer is a speech recognizer for recognizing verbal audio input; and

said indexing database is an audio indexing database.

8. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said translator is trained on a corpus of automatically and by-hand transcribed data, the data originating from a domain substantially similar to that intended to be addressed by said recognizer.

9. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising a temporary storage medium for storing the textual input for a period of time prior to its being accepted by said translator, so as to delay reconfiguration by said translator.

10. A method of indexing, said method comprising the steps of:

5   providing an indexing database;

providing a recognizer which recognizes words; and

providing a translator which accepts textual input having originated from said recognizer;

said method further comprising the steps of:

10   with said recognizer, recognizing words; and

with said translator, accepting textual input having originated from said recognizer, and reconfiguring said textual input for entry into said indexing database wherein, immediately prior to reconfiguration, said textual input appears as a feature-extracted transformation of at least one word recognized by said recognizer.

15   11. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

providing a feature extractor; and

with said feature extractor, transforming words recognized by said speech

recognizer into predetermined textual features and providing the textual features as the

textual input into said translator.

5   12. The method according to Claim 11, wherein said step of transforming words

into textual features comprises transforming words recognized by said speech recognizer

into morphs.

13. The method according to Claim 11, wherein said step of transforming words

into textual features comprises transforming words recognized by said speech recognizer

10   into stems.

14. The method according to Claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

with said speech recognizer, transforming recognized words into predetermined

textual features and providing the textual features as the textual input into said translator.

15. The method according to Claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

15   with said speech recognizer, providing the textual input into said translator; and

with said translator, transforming the textual input into predetermined textual features prior to said reconfiguring of the textual input for entry into said indexing database.

16. The method according to Claim 10, wherein:

said step of providing a recognizer comprises providing a speech recognizer for recognizing verbal audio input; and

said step of providing an indexing database comprises providing an audio indexing database.

17. The method according to Claim 10, wherein said step of providing a translator comprises providing a translator that is trained on a corpus of automatically and by-hand transcribed data, the data originating from a domain substantially similar to that intended to be addressed by said recognizer.

18. The method according to Claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

providing a temporary storage medium; and

with said temporary storage medium, storing the textual input for a period of time prior to its being accepted by said translator, so as to delay said reconfiguring by said translator.

19. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing indexing, said method comprising:

recognizing words; and

accepting textual input related to said recognized words, and reconfiguring said textual input for entry into an indexing database wherein, immediately prior to reconfiguration, said textual input appears as a feature-extracted transformation of at least one word.